

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that old bogies are being used in the Trivandrum bound Howrah Express at present;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for providing new bogies to the said Train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). No. Sir. 6323/6324 Trivandrum-Howrah Express is having combined link with 6321/6322 Trivandrum-Guwahati Express.

(c) to (e). Vacuum brake coaches have been deployed on 6323/6324 Trivandrum-Howrah Express. Railways are now manufacturing only air brake coaches which are being deployed on trains in a phased manner.

Conversion of Theatres into Commercial Complexes

1887. SHRI G.M. KUNTURKAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that approx. 500 cinema theatres throughout the country either have been closed or have been converted into commercial complexes creating a threat to film industry; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) According to information available in the films Division, a total of 466 cinema houses remained closed in the entire country during the last 8 years. Establishment and closure of cinema houses is in the private sector and is governed by market forces. Licensing of theatres fall within the purview of State Government/Union Territory Administrations.

[Translation]

Ban on Advertisements of Cigarette, Tobacco and Liquor

1888. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether some advertisements on cigarette, tobacco and liquor had been telecast/are being telecast on various Doordarshan Kendras during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received representations/suggestions to stop or put a legal ban on these advertisements; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

[English]

Announcements regarding Arrival and Departure of Trains in Hindi

1889. SHRI RUP CHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that announcements about arrival and departure of trains made in Northern Railway through the public addressing system are in Hindi only;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have instructed the Northern Railway to announce in English also in order to mitigate hardships to non-Hindi speaking passengers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). As per existing practice announcements over public address system are being made in Hindi followed by English in Hindi speaking States and also in Regional language or languages concerned in other than Hindi speaking States.

Tourism Development Scheme for Konkan Region

1890. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have drawn up a tourism development scheme for the Konkan region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the agreements between Konkan Railway Corporation and tour operators from Hyderabad in this regard; and

(d) the role played by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b). The State Govt. of Maharashtra has identified Sindhu Durg Distt. in Konkan region as special

Tourism area for the development of Tourism in the State and have prepared an integrated infrastructure development plan.

(c) and (d). According to Ministry of Railways, under the agreement between the Konkan Railways Corporation and Patil Tours and Travels Pvt. Ltd., Secunderabad, the tour operator will provide coaches for the luxury tourist train, arrange for facilities like seats, catering facilities, reservation, onboard services and ticketing. The Konkan Railway Corporation will provide all necessary facilities for operation of the train, such as, track signalling, station premises, locomotives, telecommunication, train crew, access to and from platform etc.

The operators will pay haulage charges for each trip and also pay 12% of gross monthly turnover as share of profit to Konkan Railway Corporation.

[Translation]

Extension in Route of Trains

1891. DR. RAMVILAS VEDANTI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new trains, Rajdhani, Shatabdi, Sadbhavna, Varuna etc. started from Delhi via Sultanpur can also run via Faizabad-Ayodhya;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to make such arrangement in view of the historical importance of Ayodhya;

(c) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) (a) No, Sir. However there is no Shatabdi Express from Delhi via Sultanpur and Varuna Express is not from Delhi.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Due to operational difficulties.

North-Eastern Coach Repair Factory

1892. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons working in North-Eastern Coach repairs factory at Bareilly during the last three years;

(b) whether the number of workers in this factory are continuously declining; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The number of staff working in North Eastern Coach repair workshop at Izzatnagar Bareilly during the last three years is given below :-

1.1.1994	:	2691
1.1.1995	:	2598
1.1.1996	:	2483

(b) and (c). The reduction in the number of staff is to the extent of normal retirements in Izzatnagar workshop and lower arising of M.G. Stock POH workload due to gauge conversion. However, to compensate this, manufacture of M.G. D.M.Us and Rail Buses are being undertaken.

[English]

Increase in Production of R.S.P.

1893. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the production of hot metal, crude steel and saleable steel of Rourkela Steel Plant during each of the last three years;

(b) the amount spent on its modernisation;

(c) whether it has come up to the expected target of production;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the entire plant has been modernised; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (d). The target and production of hot metal, crude steel and saleable steel of Rourkela Steel Plant during last three years are as follows :

Unit '000 T

	1993-94			1994-95			1995-96	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
Hot Metal	1350	1205	1350	1233	1500	1302		
Crude Steel	1320	1148	1340	1178	1500	1205		
Saleable Steel	1130	1130	1160	1201	1190	1148		